LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

We claim:

1. (Currently amended) A stent comprising a tubular basic body open at its face surfaces, the circumferential wall of which is covered at least in places with a coating system comprising ~~one or more~~ first and second polymer carriers and at least one pharmaceutically active substance dispersed in the first and second polymer carriers, whereby the pharmaceutically active substance, after implantation of the stent into a human or animal body, is released into the surrounding tissue, wherein ~~a concentration of the pharmaceutically active substance in the coating varies in the longitudinal direction of the stent so that~~ the pharmaceutically active substance exhibits predetermined locally different elution characteristics in the longitudinal direction of the stent ~~depending on the pathophysiological and/or rheological conditions to be expected of an application~~; and
wherein a degradation behavior of the first polymer carrier differs from a degradation behavior of the second polymer carrier and thereby serves to differentiate the local elution characteristics.

2. (Currently amended) The stent according to claim 1, wherein the first and second polymer ~~carrier is~~ carriers are biodegradable.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously presented) The stent according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the pharmaceutically active substance is greater adjacent the face surfaces than in a middle portion of the stent.

5-14. (Cancelled)

15. (New) A stent according to claim 1, wherein a concentration of the pharmaceutically active substance is essentially the same in both the first and second polymer carriers.

16. (New) A stent comprising a tubular basic body open at its face surfaces, the circumferential wall of which is covered at least in places with a coating system comprising one or more polymer carriers and a first and a second pharmaceutically active substance, whereby the first and second pharmaceutically active substances, after implantation of the stent into a human or animal body, are released into the surrounding tissue, wherein a concentration of the first pharmaceutically active substance is greater adjacent the face surfaces than in a middle portion of the stent, and wherein a concentration of the second pharmaceutically active substance is greater in a middle portion of the stent than adjacent the face surfaces, such that with degradation of the one or more polymer carriers, the pharmaceutically active substance exhibits predetermined locally different elution characteristics in the longitudinal direction of the stent.

17. (New) The stent according to claim 16, wherein the one or more polymer carriers are biodegradable.